

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7428

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

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ABIDJAN AND DAKAR FOR SCHAUFEL

DEPT PASS USIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, AO, CM

SUBJ: ANGOLA: PRESIDENT AHIDJOS NEW YEAR S SPEECH HOLDS TO OAU LINE

REF: YAOUNDE 4295

1. ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT AHIDJO S DEC 30 REMARKS TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO ANGOLA (REFTEL), HE CLEARLY ARTICULATED IN DEC 31 NEW YEAR S SPEECH TO NATION CAMEROON S CONTINUED ESPOUSAL OF CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, AND END TO ALL FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PARAGRAPH ON ANGOLA: I SAID THAT ALL THE FORMER PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES HAVE ATTAINED INDEPENDENCE. THE TRANSFER OF POWER HAS TAKEN PLACE IN A CALM AND ORDERLY MANNER EXCEPT IN ANGOLA WHERE THE COMING OF INDEPENDENCE WAS OVERSHADOWED BY DISSENSIONS THAT HAVE LED TO CIVIL WAR AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE WAY WAS THUS OPENED FOR THE BLAMEWORTHY INTERVENTION OF RACIALIST SOUTH AFRICA AND
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FOR OTHER FOREIGN INTERFERENCES WHICH THREATEN BOTH THE

COUNTRY'S INTEGRITY AND THE SECURITY OF THE CONTINENT. THIS FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, FROM WHATEVER QUARTER IT COMES, MUST STOP FOR THE ONLY ENDING TO THE FRATRICIDAL DRAMA THAT WILL SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ANGOLA AND AFRICA IS A SIMPLE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN A SPIRIT OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE ANGOLAN LEADERS WILL RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE URGENT APPEALS MADE TO THEM TO FOLLOW THIS COURSE SO THAT THEIR LONG AND HEROIC STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERTY MAY RETAIN SOME SIGNIFICANCE AND STAND AS A TESTIMONY TO THEIR PATRIOTISM AND THE MATURITY OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE.

3. GOING ON TO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA, AHIDJO EXPRESSED FEAR THAT NEGATIVE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY REGIMES THERE TO ALL EGALITARIAN OR DEMOCRATIC OVERTURES WOULD SHORTLY LEAVE THE AFRICAN PEOPLES WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO SEEK THE TOTAL LIBERATION OF AFRICA BY NON-PEACEFUL MEANS. HE THEN STRESSED NEED FOR AFRICAN STATES TO END THEIR DIVISIONS AND REINFORCE THEIR SOLIDARITY WITHIN OAU. IN IMPLICIT REFERENCE TO ANGOLA, HE CONCLUDED FOREIGN POLICY PORTION OF SPEECH WITH: THERE IS A REAL RISK OF SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZING THE DESTINY OF AFRICA IF, NOW THAT ASIA IS ENJOYING A MEASURE OF PEACE, WE ALLOW AFRICA TO BE TORN BY A WAR OF INFLUENCES, INTERESTS AND IDEOLOGIES BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS. NON-ALIGNMENT IS AN ESSENTIAL CONDITION FOR AFRICA'S INDEPENDENCE AND PROGRESS.
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